



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**DEPARTMENT OF**  
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

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July 15, 1999

**SENT VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Suite TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

re: DA 99-461, NSD-L-99-19, CC Docket No. 96-98  
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy's Petition for Waiver of  
Section 52.19 to Implement Various Area Code Conservation Methods in the 508, 617,  
781, and 978 Area Codes

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed for filing in the above matter please find one original and five copies of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy's supplemental comments to its Petition for Waiver of Section 52.19 to Implement Various Area Code Conservation Methods in the 508, 617, 781, and 978 Area Codes. This letter is intended to respond to the Commission's public notice, DA 99-1198, released June 22, 1999, "Common Carrier Bureau seeks Comment on State Utility Commission requests for Additional Authority to Implement Telecommunications Numbering Conservation Measures."

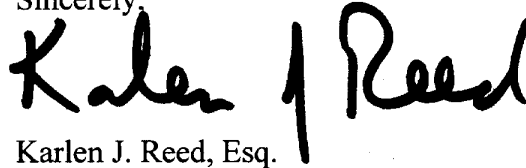
I have filed a copy of these comments electronically with the Commission's ECFS service (proceeding number 96-98).

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Kindly stamp one copy and return it to us in the enclosed Federal Express envelope.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karlen J. Reed". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Karlen" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "J. Reed" follows it in a similar but slightly smaller script. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

Karlen J. Reed, Esq.

KJR/kr

Enc.

cc: Al McCloud, CCB (w/2 encs.)  
Mass. DTE Commission (w/enc.)  
Paul G. Afonso, General Counsel (w/enc.)  
Attached Service List (w/enc.)

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

NSD-L-99-19  
CC Docket 96-98

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY'S  
SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF ITS PETITION FOR WAIVER OF  
SECTION 52.19 TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS AREA CODE CONSERVATION METHODS  
IN THE 508, 617, 781, AND 978 AREA CODES

Massachusetts Department of  
Telecommunications and Energy

Janet Gail Besser, Chair  
James Connelly, Commissioner  
W. Robert Keating, Commissioner  
Paul B. Vasington, Commissioner  
Eugene J. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner

One South Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
617-305-3500

Dated: July 15, 1999

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

NSD-L-99-19  
CC Docket 96-98

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY'S  
SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF ITS PETITION FOR WAIVER OF  
SECTION 52.19 TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS AREA CODE CONSERVATION METHODS  
IN THE 508, 617, 781, AND 978 AREA CODES

In response to the Common Carrier Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC" or "Commission") Public Notice released June 22, 1999,<sup>1</sup> the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") respectfully submits these supplemental comments in support of its Petition for Waiver of Section 52.19 to Implement Various Area Code Conservation Methods in the 508, 617, 781, and 978 Area Codes ("Petition").<sup>2</sup> The Department files these brief supplemental comments to emphasize the urgent need for prompt action by the FCC to delegate interim authority to the Department.

Previously the Department has asked the Commission to order mandatory 1,000 block number pooling quickly on a nationwide scale and, in the interim, to allow Massachusetts to conduct number pooling trials in the critical area codes. The Department also asked the Commission to order reclamation of unused NXX codes nationwide and, on an interim basis, to delegate that authority to the Department.

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<sup>1</sup> FCC Public Notice DA 99-1198, "Common Carrier Bureau Seeks Comment on State Utility Commission Requests for Additional Authority to Implement Telecommunications Numbering Conservation Measures" released June 22, 1999.

<sup>2</sup> The Department filed a Petition for Waiver of Section 52.19 to Implement Various Area Code Conservation Methods in the 508, 617, 781, and 978 Area Codes on February 17, 1999 (FCC Public Notice DA 99-461, NSD-L-99-19, released March 5, 1999).

The Department renews its requests for additional authority as presented in its Petition and in the area code conservation petitions submitted by New York, Maine, Florida, and California.<sup>3</sup> Prompt action by the Commission is critical given the impending exhaust of Massachusetts' 508, 617, 781, and 978 area codes. The May 27, 1999 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on numbering optimization measures represents significant progress towards resolving the nationwide area code crisis; however, the Department cannot afford to wait for completion of this rule making proceeding. Consequently, the Department requests an interim delegation of authority, including the authority to order mandatory 1,000 block number pooling and to reclaim unused NXX codes, with the understanding that this delegation will terminate upon implementation of nationwide numbering regulations.

The Department has been scrutinizing the Illinois number pooling trial reports and orders for guidance on optimal number pooling procedures. In particular the Department has considered the June 10, 1999 Hearing Examiner's Proposed Interim Order, approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission on June 30, 1999, which extends number pooling from the 847

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<sup>3</sup> The New York State Department of Public Service filed a Petition for Additional Delegated Authority to Implement Number Conservation Measures on February 19, 1999 (FCC Public Notice DA 99-462, NSD-L-99-21, released March 5, 1999). The Maine Public Utilities Commission filed a Petition for Additional Delegated Authority to Implement Number Conservation Measures on March 17, 1999 (FCC Public Notice DA 99-638, NSD-L-99-27, released April 1, 1999). The Florida Public Service Commission filed a Petition to Federal Communications Commission for Expedited Decision for Grant of Authority to Implement Number Conservation Measures on April 2, 1999 (FCC Public Notice DA 99-725, NSD-L-99-33, released April 15, 1999). The California Public Utilities Commission filed a Request for Delegation of Additional Authority Pertaining to Area Code Relief and to NXX Code Conservation Measures on April 23, 1999 (FCC Public Notice (FCC Public Notice NSD File No. L-98-136, released May 14, 1999).

area code in Chicago to the 312, 630, 708, and 773 Chicago area codes.<sup>4</sup> Illinois and Massachusetts have similar area code exhaust concerns, and Illinois' number pooling experiences can provide an excellent model for number pooling in Massachusetts.

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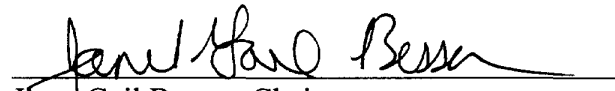


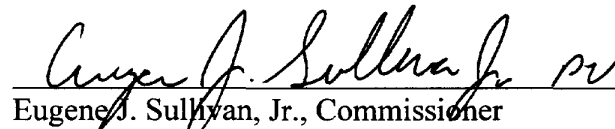
<sup>4</sup> Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 98-0847, Lockheed Martin IMS Petition for Approval of NPA Relief Plans for the 312, 630, 708 and 773 NPAs, Hearing Examiner's Proposed Interim Order (dated June 10, 1999).

We urge the Commission to review the Department's Petition quickly and to grant the requested interim delegation of authority, pending completion of the May 27, 1999, Notice of Public Rulemaking.

Respectfully submitted,

Massachusetts Department of  
Telecommunications and Energy

By:

  
Janet Gail Besser, Chair  
James Connelly, Commissioner  
W. Robert Keating, Commissioner  
Paul B. Vasington, Commissioner  
Eugene J. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner

One South Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

Before The  
**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC 20054

The Massachusetts Department of	)	
Telecommunications and Energy's Petition	)	
for Waiver of Section 52.19 to Implement	)	NSD-L-99-19, DA 99-461
Various Area Code Conservation Methods	)	CC Docket 96-98
in the 508, 617, 781, and 978 Area Codes	)	

**SERVICE LIST**

Al McCloud  
Network Services Division  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Suite 6A-320  
Washington, DC 20554

Yog R. Varma  
Deputy Bureau Chief  
Common Carrier Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room 5-C352  
Washington, DC 20554

Anna Gomez  
Division Chief, Network Services Division  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room 6-A324  
Washington, DC 20554



Blaise Scinto  
Deputy Division Chief, Network Services Division  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room 6-A240  
Washington, DC 20554

Jared Carlson  
Attorney Advisor, Network Services Division  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room 6-A331  
Washington, DC 20554

Jeanne Grimes, Special Assistant  
North American Numbering Council  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room 6-A401  
Washington, DC 20554

Network Services Division Reference Center  
Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Suite CY-A257  
Washington, DC 20554

International Transcription Service  
1231 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036

Wayne Milby  
NPA Senior Relief Planner  
Lockheed Martin CIS  
1133 15th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Cecilia Louie  
CO Code Administrator  
Lockheed Martin CIS  
1800 Sutter Street, Suite 570  
Concord, CA 94520

Cheryl Tritt, Esq.  
Morrison & Foerester  
2000 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20006

J. Bradford Ramsay  
NARUC  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Suite 603  
Washington, DC 20004

Governor A. Paul Cellucci  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
State House  
Boston, MA 02133

Daniel Mitchell  
Assistant Attorney General  
Regulated Industries Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
200 Portland Street, 4th floor  
Boston, MA 02114

Barbara Anne Sousa, Esq.  
Bell Atlantic-Massachusetts  
185 Franklin St., Room 1403  
Boston, MA 02110

Kenneth W. Salinger, Esq.  
Jeffrey F. Jones, Esq.  
Palmer & Dodge LLP  
One Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Melinda Milberg, Esq.  
AT&T Communications, Inc.  
32 Avenue of the Americas, Room 2700  
New York, NY 10013

Patricia Jacobs, Ph.D.  
State Manager for Government Affairs  
AT&T Communications of New England, Inc.  
99 Bedford Street  
Boston, MA 02111

Kenneth Ira Spigle, Esq.  
Rosenberg, Freedman & Goldstein  
246 Walnut Street  
Newton, MA 02460

Elizabeth McJimsey, Esq.  
Sprint Spectrum L.P. d/b/a Sprint PCS  
4900 Main Street, 12th Floor  
Kansas City, MO 64112

Ellen Schmidt, Esq.  
Counsel, Director of Reg. Affairs  
MediaOne Telecommunications of Massachusetts, Inc.  
6 Campanelli Drive  
Andover, MA 01890

Nathan T. Foose, Esq.  
Martin Rothfelder, Esq.  
The Rothfelder Law Offices  
625 Central Avenue  
Westfield, NJ 07090

Robert Shapiro, Esq.  
Maribeth Ladd, Esq.  
Rubin & Rudman, LLP  
50 Rowes Wharf  
Boston, MA 02110-3319

Robert L. Dewees, Jr., Esq.  
Nixon Peabody LLP  
101 Federal Street  
Boston, MA 02110

Nichole J. LaBree  
Manager - Regulatory Affairs  
Cellular One  
100 Lowder Brook Drive  
Westwood, MA 02090

Cynthia A. Berry  
Director - Regulatory Affairs  
SNET Cellular, Inc.  
500 Enterprise Drive - 3rd Floor  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3900

Michael Adams, Esq.  
Benjamin Dickens, Jr., Esq.  
Blooston, Mordkofsky, Jackson & Dickens  
2120 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037

Donna Alexander  
Omnipoint Communications  
50 Vision Boulevard  
E. Providence, RI 02914

Janet Nanos  
Regulatory Division  
16 Wing Drive  
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927

Harvey C. Kaish, Esq.  
Teresa Moore, Esq.  
McCarter & English  
Four Gateway Center, P.O. Box 652  
Newark, NJ 07101

Daniel E. Mullin  
Staff Director - Government Affairs  
Bell Atlantic Mobile  
180 Washington Valley Road  
Bedminster, NJ 07921

Curtis L. Groves, Esq.  
Hope H. Barbulescu, Esq.  
MCI WorldCom  
5 International Drive  
Rye Brook, NY 10573-1095

Alan D. Mandl, Esq.  
Ottenberg, Dunkless, Mandl & Mandl  
260 Franklin Street, Suite 1880  
Boston, MA 02110

Robert J. Munnelly, Jr., Esq.  
New England Cable TV Assoc.  
100 Grandview Road, Suite 201  
Braintree, MA 02184

Paul Frisoli, President  
SAS Security Systems  
67 Pleasant Street  
Watertown, MA 02172

Meabh Purcell, Esq.  
LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, LLP  
260 Franklin Street  
Boston, MA 02110-3173

Carolyn K. Stup, Esq.  
Regulatory Counsel  
Teligent, Inc.  
8065 Leesburg Pike  
Vienna, VA 22182

Russell Blau, Esq.  
Richard M. Rindler, Esq.  
Kathleen L. Greenan, Esq.  
Morton J. Posner, Esq.  
Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP  
3000 K Street, NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20007

William P. Hunt, III, Esq.  
Regulatory Counsel  
Level 3 Communications, Inc.  
1450 Infinite Drive  
Louisville, CO 80027

Cathy Thurston, Esq.  
State Regulatory Affairs/East  
Sprint Communications Company, LP  
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20036

Matthew H. Berns, Esq.  
Focal Communications Corporation  
200 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, IL 60601

John O. Postl, Esq.  
William J. Rooney, Jr., Esq.  
Global Naps, Inc.  
10 Merrymount Road  
Quincy, MA 02169

Scott Sawyer, Esq.  
NEVD of Massachusetts, LLC  
222 Richmond Street, Suite 206  
Providence, RI 02903

Eric J. Krathwohl, Esq.  
Rich, May, Bilodeau & Flaherty, P.C.  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Jordan Michael, Esq.  
CTC Communications Corp.  
360 Second Avenue  
Waltham, MA 02154

Helen M. Mickiewicz, Esq.  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Louise Rickard  
Acting Executive Secretary  
Connecticut Public Utilities Commission  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Trina M. Bragdon, Esq.  
Maine Public Utilities Commission  
242 State Street  
Augusta, ME 04333

Cheryl L. Callahan, Assistant General Counsel  
Public Service Commission of the State of New York  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12223-1350

David E. Screven, Esq.  
Assistant Counsel  
Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Philip F. McClelland, Esq.  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
Office of Consumer Advocate  
Office of Attorney General  
555 Walnut Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Forum Place  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923

Joe Garcia, Chairman  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Levent Ileri  
Division of Communications  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Cynthia B. Miller, Esq.  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Richard L. Mathias, Chairman  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
527 E. Capitol Avenue  
PO Box 19280  
Springfield, IL 62794-9280

Michael Guerra, Esq.  
Hearing Examiner  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
527 E. Capitol Avenue  
PO Box 19280  
Springfield, IL 62794-9280